

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0044] The plug 18 comprises a plug body 28 formed from a suitable dielectric material (see Figures 1, 4, 5, 6, and 8). The plug body 28 includes a major surface 28a having a plurality of recesses 30 formed therein (see Figures 6 and 8). Each recess 30 accommodates a portion of a respective solder ball 20b. The plug 18 also comprises a plurality of electrically-conductive signal contacts 32 (see Figure 8). The signal contacts 32 are mounted on, and extend through the plug body ~~[[32]]~~ 28. The signal contacts 32 are arranged in six rows each having forty of the signal contacts 32 therein, and four rows each having twenty-eight of the signal contacts 32 therein (see Figure 4).

Please replace paragraph [0046] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0046] Each signal contact 32 has a substantially flat mounting portion 32a, and a substantially flat mating portion 32b that adjoins the mounting portion 32a (see Figure 8). Each signal contact 32 also comprises an attachment tab 32c that adjoins the mounting portion 32a. The ~~central~~ mounting portion 32a, mating portion 32b, and attachment tab 32c are preferably formed on a unitary basis.

Please replace paragraph [0047] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0047] The ~~signals~~ signal contacts 32 are each mounted on the plug body 28. More particularly, the ~~[[body]]~~ mounting portion 32a of each signal contact 32 is mounted in the plug body 28 so that the ~~mounting~~ mating portion 32b extends ~~upward~~ downward from the plug body 28 (from the perspective of Figure 8), and the attachment tab 32c is positioned in a corresponding one of the recesses 30. The attachment tab 32c is fused to a respective one of the solder balls 20b. The solder ball 20b helps to retain the signal contact 32 in the plug body 28 before the plug 18 is mounted on the second PCB 14.

Please replace paragraph [0053] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0053] The power contact strip 34 preferably comprises a substantially flat and elongated body portion 38 (see Figure 7). The power contact strip 34 also comprises mating

features and attachment features. The mating features can be, for example, a plurality of mating tabs [[38]] 39, and the attachment features can be, for example, a plurality of attachment tabs 40. Although the power strip 34 is shown as comprising four of the mating tabs [[38]] 39 and five of the attachment tabs 40, these numbers can be varied in alternative embodiments to increase the power-handling capacity of the power strip 34.

Please replace paragraph [0054] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0054] The body portion 38, mating tabs 39, and attachment tabs 40 are preferably formed unitarily. The mating tabs 39 extend upward from the body portion 38, and the attachment tabs 40 extend downward from the body portion 38 (from the perspective of Figure 7). The mating tabs [[38]] 39 and attachment tabs 40 are preferably staggered. In other words, the mating tabs 39 and attachment tabs 40 are offset so that the mating tabs 39 do not align with the attachment tabs 40 in the vertical direction, as depicted in Figure 7. The significance of this feature is discussed below.

Please replace paragraph [0056] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0056] The power contact strip 34 is mounted on the receptacle body 22 of the receptacle 16. More particularly, the body portion 38 is mounted in a slot 43 formed in the receptacle body 22 (see Figures 3 and 6) so that the mating tabs [[38]] 39 extend upwardly from the receptacle body 22 (from the perspective of Figures 2 and 3). Each attachment tab 40 extends into a respective one of the recesses 26 by way of a through hole (not shown) formed in the receptacle body 22. A respective one of the solder balls 20a is fused to each of the attachment tabs 40. The solder balls 20a help to retain the power contact strip 34 in the slot 43 before the receptacle 16 is mounted on the first PCB 12.

Please replace paragraph [0066] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0066] The mating tabs [[38]] 39 and the attachment tabs 40 on the power contact strip 34 are preferably staggered, as discussed above. This feature is believed to substantially reduce mechanical stresses in the attachment tabs 40 (and in the solder connections 55 attached thereto). More particularly, the resilient deflection of the mating tabs 39 caused by the engagement of the mating tabs 39 and the contact blade 45 is believed to induces stresses

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in the body portion 38 directly below the mating tabs 39 (from the perspective of Figure 7).

In other words, the areas on the body portion 38 located directly below the mating tabs 39 are high-stress areas. Staggering the mating tabs 39 and the attachment tabs 40 locates the attachment tabs 40 away from these high-stress areas.